

The Times

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 1902.

NEGRO LAND-OWNERS.

A correspondent of the Birmingham News writing from Jackson, Miss., says that much surprise and adverse comment has been occasioned throughout the State by the action of the Farmers' Club of Amite county in adopting resolutions of a very radical nature on the negro problem. The club is composed of leading farmers of the county and passed a resolution declaring that it is had policy to sell land to negroes and that the custom should be discouraged.

We do not know what the situation is in that section of the South. The negroes of Mississippi are not as good a class of negroes as those in Virginia, and these farmers doubtless had a good reason for taking such a stand. But we cannot favor the principle. It seems to us that every man has an inherent right, a God-given right, to purchase land, if he has the means of paying for it, and to cultivate soil. The negro is a born farmer and an agricultural life suits him. In that pursuit he is removed from competition with the white man, and we have often expressed the opinion that agriculture was the most inviting field of all to the black man. We have advised him to buy land and till the soil and live close to nature. In that position we do not think he is a menace to society, but, on the contrary, that as a farmer he may become a useful citizen. There are many negro farmers in Virginia, many who own their land, and so far as we have been able to ascertain, they are contributing to the wealth and prosperity of the country, they are taking care of themselves without being a burden upon society, and they are conducting themselves well.

Traveling some time ago through one of the eastern counties of Virginia, a splendid farm was pointed out to this writer, and he was informed that it was owned and operated by a negro. We asked if the negro was a good citizen and if he enjoyed the respect and favor of his neighbors. Our informant, who was formerly a slave-owner and who has always been a Democrat of the affirmative. He said that the negro was a good and useful citizen, that he took an interest in public affairs, and that he was always ready to subscribe to any local enterprise that helped the community. We cannot be persuaded that such a man is dangerous to the community in which he lives, nor can we be persuaded that such negroes should be deprived of the privilege of owning land.

GOVERNMENT INTERFERENCE.

In yesterday's paper we submitted some comments on President Roosevelt's speech before the New York Chamber of Commerce, and we are interested to note that the New York Evening Post has an article much in the same line.

Referring to the suggestion of the President that the business of the country should go on without interference of government, the Evening Post says:

"It is not in pretence to command prosperity. The immutable laws of trade are bound to work their will, whether Congress is of one political complexion or another. When citizens are in trouble about their business affairs, the thing for them to do is, not to call upon some Hercules at Washington to drag them out of the mire, but to put their own shoulders to the wheel. 'The continuance of prosperity,' said the President, 'depends upon your sanity and common sense.' This is a vast improvement on the campaign theory that it depends upon the Republican party and the tariff invariable."

It may be argued by some that the tariff has done a great deal toward building up the industries of the country, and by others that if the Secretary of the Treasury had not come to the relief of the money situation some time ago there would have been a panic. But that is argument after the fact. It is the same sort of argument that a man uses when he is just recovering from a spree. He reasons that it is absolutely necessary for him to have a drink to brace himself up, because it was whiskey that unnerved him. But it would not have been necessary if he had not taken the first drink. In other words, it is a sort of two-wrongs-make-a-right argument.

If any industry in this country has been built up by government favoritism and is dependent for its existence upon government favoritism, then of course that industry will suffer when government support is withdrawn. Our contention is that the industries of this country should not depend upon government support, but should rest upon the eternal foundation of merit.

Again, it was necessary for the Secretary of the Treasury to come to the relief of the banks some time ago, but it was necessary because of government interference in the first instance. If the banks had been permitted originally and all these years to take care of their own affairs and issue currency when needed, they would long before have established a safe and elastic system and there would have been no occasion to call upon the government for help.

The trouble about all this sort of thing is that when the government once begins to interfere, once begins to hinder or to aid, there is no telling to what lengths the system will go. It is the one act that begets the other, and so we go on and on until finally we must

depend upon the government for everything. The safest way is for the government to attend strictly to the affairs of government, to discharge its functions as outlined in the Constitution, and leave the business world as free as possible to take care of the things of itself.

A PLEA FOR THE NON-UNION MAN.

On Sunday last Rev. Dr. Newell Dwight Hillis preached a sermon in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, on capital and labor. His subject was "Natural Righteousness and Justice, With an Outlook Upon Labor's Hatred of Labor and a Plea for the Poor and Weak." His plea was especially for the non-union man, for the man who is not permitted to join the unions, as well as for the man who does not choose to do so, but who exercises his right of choice and who claims his right to labor upon such terms as suit him without interference on the part of others.

He did not put himself in opposition to labor organizations; on the contrary he said that the history of trades unionism, its gain in wages, the lessening of the hours of labor, its gains in intelligence, and the character of many of its leaders, have justified and vindicated the labor movement, and that he would yield to none in his enthusiasm for the union when righteously conducted. "But," he added, "the non-union men, who represent 50 per cent. of the trades, whose sons are forbidden the right to become apprentices, and whose wrongs are above all other wrongs, justify a plea. And this was his plea:

"The union man has a right to decide how many hours he will work and at what wage he will work. The non-union man has a right to deliberately consider the reasons for the union, and also to refuse to join it, in his own happiness and welfare. And no union man, or delegate, has received any charter from God or the Constitution to kill a non-union man, or to send around these printed notices, saying, 'The following factory, and the following store, and you are directed to boycott any merchant who handles their goods—an order that has bankrupted hundreds of little shops and factories and stores, that has broken the hearts and ruined the lives of innumerable poor men, who may have been mistaken in not joining the union, but who have the same God-given right to do foolish things that you and I have, without being starved to death or pounded to death.'"

If there is one characteristic of the American citizen it is love of liberty and love of fair play. Therefore, we have said time and again that no organization in this land of liberty which is intolerant of the rights of others, which trespasses upon the rights of others, which attempts to carry its point by intimidation, by ostracism, by persecution, by the boycott, or by any kindred method can have permanent success. Every such organization is at cross purposes with the righteous principles upon which our government was founded. Our forefathers came here to escape persecution; they came here to enjoy personal liberty. The attempt of the mother country to trespass upon their God-given rights and to force them into distasteful measures resulted in a Declaration of Independence and finally in a revolution. The War of the Revolution was a war for personal liberty, for the right of every man to walk in his own way so long as he does not trespass upon the rights of others, and against coercion in all its forms. So long as that spirit lives among the people, just so long will it be impossible for any coercive organization to flourish.

Dr. Hillis did not say, nor do we say, that all labor organizations are formed for the purpose of coercing their fellow-men. Most of them are formed for protection, and all such are entirely legitimate. But those which do practice coercion and attempt to browbeat and persecute their brethren and to punish all who do not bow the knee, will as surely come to grief in the long run as it is impossible for autocracy to flourish in a land of democracy.

LOVE AND MARRIAGE.

Bishop Duncan says that The Times misunderstood his remarks about the marrying of young preachers. "The preachers to whom I referred," explains the Bishop, "was under no obligations, marital or otherwise, to marry the girl of a different denomination. I will say that a man who marries a woman for money prostitutes the most sacred relation of life. However, maybe my friend, the editor, was in a tight place for something to write about, and I thank God I was able to help him out."

The Bishop is mistaken, God bless him. We were trying to help the young preacher out. The Bishop had said that "a young preacher in the far West declared he would have to give up his charge and go East, as there was a girl he liked very much, and he wished to marry her." Good boy! He followed his heart, and whether or not he was under obligation to marry the girl of his choice, he loved her and gave luck to him. He was a young Lochinvar come out of the West, and we honor him for his chivalry and for his reasoning.

Of course, the Bishop does not believe in marrying for money. He is as gallant and true as any knight who ever broke lance for women's smile. We have not known him all these years in vain, and it is our private opinion that if, in his young days, he had gone to California, or Kamchatka, or the islands of the great deep, leaving his heart in old Virginia, by and by he would have come back to look for the girl he left behind him.

BANKS OF ISSUE.

The Charlotte Observer says that The Times interpreted Mr. Vanderbilt's remarks in that city on the currency system in a way not intended by that gentleman himself, in intimating that he favored any change looking to allowing the States to charter banks of issue. "That would naturally mean," our contemporary proceeds, "the repeal by the general government of the ten per cent. tax on bank notes issued under State authority. In Mr. Vanderbilt's address he made no reference to this tax, or to the subject

of State banks, except most incidentally. Omitting this phase of the subject, the comments of The Times are entirely in accord with what Mr. Vanderbilt advocated."

In conclusion, the Observer says that Mr. Vanderbilt and The Times seem to agree as to the nature of a flexible feature in our banking system, differing in that he would maintain the system on a national basis, while The Times would repeal the tax and relegate the subject of banking to the several States. The position of The Times is that if this tax were repealed the intelligent business men of the country would devise a system of bank currency which would be safe and sound and flexible. Each State might have its own system, or there might by agreement be a uniform national system. Be that as it may, if the government would remove the obstacle, we believe that the intelligence of the country would soon create a system of bank currency that would meet the demands of business at all seasons and in all emergencies, expanding with the needs of the hour and contracting with the reaction.

Colonel A. Hatchett, of Durham, N. C., was candidate for the State Legislature on a ticket nominated by himself and enjoys the unique distinction of being the only man who ever ran for such an office and got not a single vote.

The Governor gracefully concurs in the opinion of the President that we have much to be thankful for, and he could have added that if any of us have not it is our own fault.

The time for the renewal of annuals being near at hand the Georgia Legislature naturally has up the free-pass question again, but the anti-pass bill is not at all likely to pass.

That negro football player who with a razor hamstringing an opponent to keep him from making a "touchdown" knew his strong suit before he went into the game.

The pine trees over in North Carolina are "whispering a whisper" to the effect that after the Mississippi bear hunt is over the anti-illy white axe will be strenuously wielded in that State.

It is safe to wager your last surviving nickel that the public will never know General Bragg's private opinion of the leading citizens of the city of Hong Kong.

It would be interesting to know Colonel Bryan's private opinion of the forest that offers ex-Governor Stone as the only real presidential timber.

Arbitration is a good thing when the award comes our way. King Oscar is not that kind of an arbitrator in the case now in hand.

President Mitchell will never be President of the United States, notwithstanding President Baer's continued abuse of him.

The Spanish Cabinet seems unwilling to stand pat with such a little king in hand.

The New York handwriting experts ought surely to be brought to trial for something.

Since Boston's "Jack the Sluggard" turns out to be just a plain tramp negro the case has lost all of its romance.

The new book, "The Coming City," just published, has no local significance. Richmond has already arrived.

Anyhow, Iowa squeezed one Democrat into Congress. That, too, is a brand new "Iowa idea."

The Kaiser may prove to be a fairly good bird shooter, but when it comes to bears he isn't in it with our President.

The Canadian government having penned up the Doukhobors is now at a loss to know how to get rid of them.

The only man on the Democratic State ticket to be elected in Colorado was a woman.

Sagasta has been called to Madrid to form a new Spanish Cabinet, because of his sagacity perhaps.

An Hour With Virginia Editors

The Staunton News urges the Legislature to pass an act rearranging the congressional districts, and says:

"The problem would be simple enough if only the interests of the State were to be consulted, but when it comes to drawing the lines anew the changes are seen to affect most seriously the interests of some members of Congress, who is afraid they may be left out by the changes, and a complication arises at once. He gets to work to defeat the change proposed, and the interests of the State suffer."

The Farmville Herald says:

"One Mr. Dodd, of Randolph-Macon, is out in a letter complaining that the University of Virginia hasn't 1,500 students and isn't as rich as Harvard. Why not add another wall because Richmond isn't as big as London and with a harbor as broad and deep as that of New York?"

The Fredericksburg Star observes:

"Tariff or no tariff, anathrads or no anathrads, the wedding bells continue to ring in old Virginia."

Referring to the knock-out blow the President administered to the Alabama "illy white" Republicans, the Norfolk Virginian-Pilot says:

"It is no funeral of ours, but the Republican party in the South is indeed 'in a pretty bad position,' and will stay there as long as it holds on to the negro."

The Farmville Herald sometimes lays down propositions it would find difficulty in proving if brought to the test, the following, for instance:

"The morality of the South under slavery was of a higher order, and the master minds of the past of this country were found among slave owners. As a money maker slavery was a failure, but strange as it may sound, as a moral and mental promoter it was unique. The new South may be richer in things material, but is poorer in the highest order of manhood and womanhood."

Social and Personal.

Miss Elsie Woodbury Brown, of New York, whose marriage to Mr. Tom C. Jenkins, of Baltimore, has been so much admired for her beauty that Madrazo has painted her twice. The latest portrait, taken in a white lace gown, attracted much notice at the Paris Salon of this year.

At a very swell Boston wedding of this week, that of Miss Margaret Fay and Mr. Tom Motley, Jr., the bride's gown was of the heaviest white satin, of princess cut and almost covered with rose point and chiffon. Bridemaids' frocks were of white satin covered with frills of Italian insertion. The bolero jackets were of silk delicately figured in pompadour designs of pale blue and pink. Their large hats were of Italian lace relieved by touches of pale pink and blue and adorned with long, sweeping white plumes.

In Honor of Her Friends.

Miss Helen Camp entertained last evening in honor of her friends, Miss Marion Marquess and Miss Mary Tate, of Missouri. The lower floor of Camp house, No. 300 East Grace Street, was changed into a ballroom. The color scheme was in pink and white and green; palms and ferns being effectively placed in halls, parlors and dining room, the floral decorations in the front parlor being in pink and white carnations and the back parlor having the mantel banked with white chrysanthemums. In the dining room white chrysanthemums and asparagus fern, with pink and white and green candles in silver candelabra made the tasteful and pretty table. Between the hours of five and seven by Mrs. William C. Camp, Miss Helen Camp, Miss Marion Marquess, Miss Mary Tate, Miss Mary Curtis and Miss Mary Camp.

At eight-thirty o'clock and later Miss Camp's young friends were invited to a progressive peanut party, which was productive of much merriment and enjoyment to all who were present.

Misses Young Enter in.

Miss Charlotte and Miss Katherine Yonge set the social wheels spinning by being one of the smartest of the season, where Richmond society met, smiled and exchanged greetings for the first time since their return to the city.

Decorations in parlors, hall and dining room at No. 307 West Franklin street, in brilliant shades of red, autumn leaves, autumn-kissed scarlet Virginia creeper and red carnations being used to emphasize the rich tone in color. In the dining room the adornment was particularly in a cut-glass bowl made the centerpiece and red candles, red shades and red chrysanthemums added to the warm glow cast by the reflection from innumerable waxen lights.

Miss Charlotte Yonge looked extremely handsome in a gown of black accented with white above the waist and a silk. Miss Katherine wore white lace over white satin and the sisters formed a pleasing contrast as they stood to welcome their friends. They were assisted in receiving by Miss MacDonald, who wore an imported costume. The young ladies helping—Miss Anna Carr, Elsie Stokes, Amy Werth, Kate Michaux, Sue Spilman, Nora Leary, Nannie Cooke, Miss Harrison, Elizabeth Robins, Miss MacDonald, Elizabeth Brand, and Miss Carrie Armstrong—were charming white and gold frocks.

Mrs. John A. Coke, Jr., poured chocolate, Mrs. Culp, of Pittsburgh, and Mrs. Small served the salads.

Guests invited were Mrs. T. Moncreux, Perkins, Mrs. Barton Grundy, Mrs. Garrett Wall, Mrs. Egbert Leigh, Mrs. Henry Landon Cabell, Mrs. John A. Coke, Jr., Mrs. Langhorne Putney, Mrs. Edward Quarles, Mrs. William W. Wallace, Mrs. Robert Blankenship, Mrs. Tompkins, Mrs. John A. Tyler, Mrs. Carrington, Mrs. Scott, Mrs. Clay Drevery, Jr., Mrs. Cotesworth Pinkney, Mrs. Turner, Mrs. Alex. Sands, Mrs. Edward Valentine, Mrs. Harrison, Mrs. Church, Mrs. Young, Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Small, Mrs. Ritchie, Mrs. Culp, Mrs. J. A. Welch, Mrs. August Robinson, Mrs. John Tyler, Mrs. Thomas Armstrong, Mrs. Julian Binford, Mrs. James Cannon, Mrs. Henson, Mrs. Randall, Mrs. Mallory, Mrs. Latimer, Mrs. Gordon, Mrs. Williams, Mrs. Stuart Stringfellow, Mrs. Bentley, Mrs. Hewitt, Mrs. Morgan, Mrs. Page, Mrs. John Wilcox, Mrs. Carrington, Mrs. Freeman, Mrs. Preston, Misses Lina Shields, Margaret Shields, Lizzie Brander, Maude Morgan, Blanche Morgan, Katherine Michaux, Elizabeth Robins, Ella Binford, Amy Werth, Elsie Stokes, Nannie Cooke, Betty Chichester, Jane Fisher, Elizabeth Fisher, Marie Lightfoot, Marie Webster, Anna Deane Carr, Emily Jennings, Mammie Jennings, Sue Spilman, Rebecca Gordon, Adelle Bowe, Nora Houston, Mary Hays, Lucy Hays, Janie Wingo, Agnes McCarthy, Josephine E. Gray, Mrs. Edith Jones, Daisy Chamberlayne, Nora Leary, Ella Jackson, Margaret Watkins, Robert Ellerson, Emmie Thomas, Ethel Pace, Stanley Atkins, Marianne Meade, Misses James, Bessie Boshier, Alice Hotchkiss, Gussie Abbott, Annie Smith, Mary Rogers, Helen Stevens, Preston Womack, Mary Buford, Courtney Bridges, Evelyn Bridges, Marguerite Warwick, Sally Reid Anderson, A. Lee White, Kate Meredith, Posie Meredith, Misses Elizabeth E. Tanner, Sadie Sutton, Evelyn Gordon, Helen Quarles, Misses Tinsley, Hattie Ross, Mary Ball, Mattie Purcell, Seple de Sausse, Misses Ashburner, Gibson, Conde Bridges, Adair Minor, Henningham Spilman, Maria Mosely, Grace Shields, Ellen White, Edie Cooke, Lella White, Sophia White, Annabel Jenkins, Lella Hill, Annie Gray, Leira Gray, Misses Waddill, Mason, Rowland, Helen O'Ferrall, Mabel Walker and Miss Harvie.

Fredericksburg Star: We expect the very best results, for we believe that our legislators will be inspired by the high and holy purpose to serve the people and to preserve the health of Virginia faithfully and efficiently.

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COLLEGE FRESHMEN WIN

Petersburg Boys Defeated in Petersburg by Richmond College Team. (Special Dispatch to The Times)

PETERSBURG, VA., Nov. 14.—The Richmond College Freshman football team defeated the Petersburg team by a score of 16 to 0 at Washington Street Park in this city this evening. The home team was composed of boys from 14 to 18 years of age, and it was loudly cheered for the splendid playing it did against the men, who, when compared with the Petersburg boys. The game was largely attended.

Lower Henrico. (Special Dispatch to The Times)

ELKO, VA., Nov. 14.—The Young People's society met with Misses Goddin Tuesday evening, where they enjoyed themselves greatly.

The roll of honor of Elko school is as follows: Lola Chamberlain, Lella Goode, Lizzie Goode, Lella Robins, Edna Robins, Carrie Baker. Miss Effie Gentry is teacher.

Mrs. Sallie E. Baker, who has been visiting her sons, Messrs. Willie R. and John W. Baker, of Richmond, has returned home.

Mr. John W. Baker is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. C. Baker, of Elko.

Miss Mary L. Baker is visiting her brothers in Richmond.

Ellenor May, the three-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Baker, who was so badly burned before Thanksgiving, has now recovered entirely.

YOU NEEDN'T keep on feeling distressed after eating, nor belching, nor experiencing nausea between meals. Hood's Sarsaparilla cures dyspepsia—it strengthens the stomach and other digestive organs for the proper performance of their functions. Take Hood's.

ing of November 26th in St. John's Episcopal Church, Bedford, Va. Miss Mosby is the youngest daughter of Postmaster W. H. Mosby, and Mr. Hurt is one of Bedford's young business men, and has been engaged in the tobacco business for several years.

Cards are out for the marriage of Mr. John Mason Jameson, son of Mr. M. C. Jameson, comptroller of the Norfolk and Western Railroad, and Miss Mamie Elise Johnston, daughter of Mrs. James Johnston, of Roanoke. The ceremony will take place in Roanoke at Green Memorial Church on Wednesday evening, November 19th.

Personal Mention.

Senator Morgan and Miss Morgan, of Alabama, who have been with Miss Mary Johnston for the past several summers at Warm Springs, have accepted an invitation from Mrs. John L. Eubank to come to Richmond next Monday and attend the first night's presentation of "The Jew" at the Academy. While here Senator Morgan and Miss Morgan will be the guests of Mrs. Eubank in her home, No. 508 East Grace Street.

Major James H. Dooley will introduce Mr. William H. Baldwin, Jr., who will lecture under the auspices of the Richmond Education Association November 22nd at 8:30 P. M. in the Young Men's Christian Association Hall. Mr. Baldwin, who is a very finished as well as a practical talker, will be accompanied by his wife when he comes to Richmond.

Mr. Fred Scott has bought a splendid estate, "Royal Orchard," on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railway, in Albemarle county, near Atton, Va. With his family he will spend the summer months there.

Miss Jane Fisher attended an extremely pretty entertainment given Thursday evening in Norfolk by the Jolly Jokers Euchre Club. The games were mimed by the "Vars of East Boston." The card tables were white flags lettered in red, with the names of St. Albans, Towton, Tewkesbury and Bosworth. Partners were matched with red and white roses. The close of each battle was marked by the blowing of a bugle, and the winners were crowned with a cross of honor. Decorations and refreshments emphasized the color idea in red and white.

Miss Annie Jarman, of Charlottesville, is visiting friends in Richmond.

Miss Lucy Temple is visiting Mrs. E. M. Henry, of Bute Street, Norfolk.

The Richmond Chapter of the Alumnae Association of Hollins Institute, who propose to erect a memorial liberty building at Hollins in honor of the late Dr. Charles L. Cooke, will, it is said, be organized at the Executive Mansion, Mrs. Montague having been educated at Hollins.

Mrs. John C. Paxton, of Buchanan, Va., is with her sister, Miss Elizabeth Robinson, the principal of Westminister School, Miss Robinson, who has been quite sick, is better.

Dr. H. R. Carter, the son of Mrs. Emma Carter, near Beaver Dam, Va., now chief medical officer in the Marine Hospital, Baltimore, has been appointed a representative to a meeting of sanitary specialists, which will be held in Cairo, Egypt. Dr. Carter is famous as a specialist in the treatment of yellow fever.

Miss Sally Rose Fontaine, of Hanover county, is the guest of Mrs. Benson.

Mrs. A. B. Chandler, of Caroline, is the guest of her son, Mr. B. Chandler, Jr.

Mr. W. E. Puryear and family, of Enonville, Va., will spend the winter in Richmond.

Mrs. J. T. Richardson, of Caroline, is attending conference in Richmond this week.

Short Talks to the Legislature. Staunton News: We take no stock whatever in the claim made that the Legislature will take no account of the remarkable proceeding of Judge Campbell in attacking Rev. Dr. Crawford, or of the fact that the proceedings of the anti-gambing committee do appear to be a necessary adjunct.

Norfolk Dispatch: The people of Virginia do not care to have the Legislature in session ten months, especially when a large part of that time is devoted to long-winded speeches and political grandstand plays. The present session of the Legislature is expected to do something for the State in a material way.

Suffolk Herald: One important duty, and by no means the least, is to provide for a suitable exhibit at the Exposition, and if we are to make an adequate appropriation for Virginia's exhibit, an irreparable wrong will be perpetrated against her fair name, and her former glory will be shorn of its time-honored and well deserved greatness.

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THE INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY-SCHOOL LESSON

FOR NOVEMBER 16.

SUBJECT: "The Time of the Judge"—Judges, XI: 7-19.

By Rev. J. E. Gilbert, D. D., Secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

THE BOOK. The seventh book in our English Bible, from which the lesson is taken, is of uncertain origin. Until recently scholars assigned its authorship to the Prophet Samuel, who flourished, according to Archbishop Usher's chronology, B. C. 1137 to 1057, a period of eighty years. It has been held by critics that the book was written after the Babylonian captivity by some unknown scribe. All agree that it covers the time that the judges ruled in Israel, which was prior to the monarchy under Saul, and subsequent to the administration of Joshua, the successor of Moses. The government was that of a pure theocracy, and the people were idolaters and a lawless nation. The people were in a state of anarchy according to a division made immediately after the conquest, and were confronted with many difficulties. Their dispersion endangered national unity, and led them to seek friendly relations with the original inhabitants of the land, who were idolaters and a lawless nation.

THE SERVICE. (Verse 7.) For a time after entering Canaan, the children of Israel were faithful to the Lord. They kept the laws—moral, civil and ceremonial—which were delivered to Moses at Sinai (Ex. xxiii.). By these, and the interests in family and society were fully guarded. The excellence of that code, confessed by eminent jurists of all after centuries, is shown by the fact that, as Blackstone declares in his Commentaries on the laws of England, it has been largely the basis of the laws of all civilized nations. This was thus presented the beautiful spectacle of more than three millions of souls living peacefully and happily in the valleys and on the hillsides, loyal to their King, the Almighty. This delightful condition continued through the fathers, who had witnessed the displays of God's power.

THE TRANSITION. (Verses 8, 9, 10.) One by one these venerable men passed away, gathered unto their fathers. Joshua reached the good old age of one hundred and ten years (Josh. xix. 22). His death was the time the Red Sea was crossed, the leader of Israel in the battle of defense and conquest (Josh. viii.), and the wise and honored head of the nation after the settlement in the new possessions. He was buried in land that had been given to him in the city of the country (Josh. xix. 22). In the city of Timnath-Serah of the tribe of Ephraim, to which he belonged (Numb. xiii. 8). His long service had given him a warm place in the hearts of his countrymen, who laid away his remains with becoming reverence. Some of the old men who had associated with him, lingered for a time, and they, too, disappeared. A new generation having no personal knowledge of the early times came upon the stage of action.

THE REVOLT. (Verses 11, 12, 13.) The orientals from the most ancient times have enjoyed the heritage of the fathers. There was one of the basal principles in the laws of the deaconess (Ex. xxii. 12). It was believed that the early institutions of a people ought to be perpetuated; they were indeed held to be sacred, as Divinely ordained. Conservatism tended to stability, and that to stability tended to stability. But the new Israel forgot the fathers and rejected the religious customs and ordinances which were their most precious inheritance. Casting off the service of Jehovah, they brought them out of Egypt. This may have resulted from a desire to be friendly with the natives among whom they dwelt, or from a conviction then common that the old men, who had presided over certain sections of the country, did not quite meet the needs of their intellectual and social life.

THE DEFEAT. (Verses 14 and 15.) Men forget that in the turning away from the Lord they forfeit his protecting care. One of the plainest promises made to Israel was that God would be to them as a Father (Deut. xxi. 17). History had recored instances of defeat solely because of sin, as in the case of Ai (Josh. vii. 15), and these ought to have been warnings to all after generations. But the people, after departure from the path of rectitude, forgot the lessons of their fathers. The Canaanites were not their only enemies—the Lord himself fought against them and brought defeat. All this was according to deplorable merit (Deut. xxxii. 17). It was long time ago. (Lament. i. 1.) It was long time ago. (Lament. i. 1.) It was long time ago. (Lament. i. 1.)

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